Mutations of the virus during the Covid-19 pandemic

GLOBAL

virus genomes

Number of

12,000

10,000

50

Dec

2019

Jan

2020

Feb

March

April

May

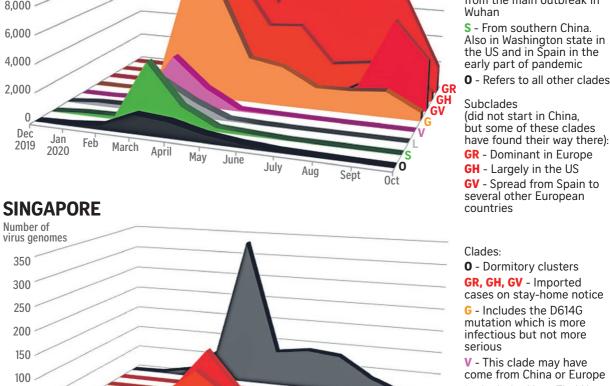
NOTE: The letters denoting the clades reflect the key mutation positions on the virus

June

July

Aug

The Sars-CoV-2 virus has mutated into various clades, or branches, during the pandemic. By sequencing the genome of the virus taken from people infected, scientists are able to know if a particular clade is spreading or has been contained.



G - From China, this caused the major wave in Europe,

Clades:

replacing clade V

V - Close relative of clade L was part of outbreak in northern Italy and other

parts of Europe L - This clade stemmed from the main outbreak in

S - From southern China. Also in Washington state in the US and in Spain in the

O - Refers to all other clades Subclades (did not start in China.

GH - Largely in the US GV - Spread from Spain to several other European countries

Clades:

O - Dormitory clusters

GR, GH, GV - Imported

cases on stay-home notice G - Includes the D614G

mutation which is more infectious but not more serious

V - This clade may have come from China or Europe L - Includes Yong Thai Hang health products shop and Grand Hyatt cluster S - Includes Grace Assem-

Science Park II and Seletar Aerospace Heights construction site clusters

bly of God, The Life Church

and Missions Singapore,

Sources: BIOINFORMATICS INSTITUTE, A*Star SUNDAY TIMES GRAPHICS

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